

Message Text

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - U.S. MIDEAST DIPLOMACY

1. SUMMARY. BEIRUT DAILIES OF JUNE 11 AND WEEKLIES OF JUNE 6-9
DEVOTE EXTENSIVE COMMENT TO RESULTS OF SALZBURG SUMMIT AND PROSPECTS
FOR NEW STEP TOWARDS PEACE ON SINAI FRONT. LEADING INDEPENDENT
"AN-NAHAR" BELIEVES THAT EXPECTED NEW STEP CONDITIONS ALMOST ALL
ARAB DIPLOMATIC MOVES AT PRESENT. LEADING PRO-EGYPTIAN "AL-ANWAR"
CALLS ON AMERICAN LEADERS TO REJECT ISRAELI ATTEMPTS TO ISOLATE
EGYPT AND TO ACCEPT EGYPTIAN POSITION THAT ANY NEW STEP MUST BE
LINKED TO GENERAL SETTLEMENT. THREE LEFTIST WEEKLIES, PRO-SOVIET
CP ORGAN "AL-AKHBAR", PFLP/GC ORGAN "ILA AL-AMAM", AND PRO-PDFLP
"AL-HURRIYYA", ALL ATTACK PRESIDENT SADAT BITTERLY FOR CONTINUING
TO RELY ON U.S. DIPLOMACY. PLO ORGAN "FILASTIN ATH-THAWRA"
AND PFLP ORGAN "AL-HADAF" BOTH WARN THAT EVENTS IN LEBANON ARE
PART OF AMERICAN-ISRAELI PLOT TO LIQUIDATE PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE
AND IMPOSE SURRENDERIST SETTLEMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. 'ABD AL-KARIM ABUN-NASR, FOREIGN EDITOR OF LEADING INDEPENDENT
"AN-NAHAR", WRITES: "IT IS CLEAR AS RESULT OF FORD-SADAT
MEETING... THAT EGYPT AND AMERICA ARE MOVING TO ACHIEVE NEW STEP ON
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EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI FRONT BECAUSE THEY CONSIDER THIS A PRACTICAL

STEP AND A DIRECT MEANS OF MOVING CONFLICT OUT OF STALEMATE....
IT IS NO EXAGGERATION TO SAY THAT MOST MOVES OCCURRING IN AREA
NOW ARE TAKING PLACE IN 'ATMOSPHERE' OF PROBABLE AGREEMENT ON SINAI.
EVENTS IN LEBANON, LIBYA'S MOVES ON ARAB AND INTERNATIONAL SCENE,
ATTITUDES OF SOME ARAB AND PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE LEADERS, AND
PRESIDENT ASAD'S VISIT TO JORDAN ARE ALL RELATED IN
ONE WAY OR ANOTHER TO WHAT MAY HAPPEN ON EGYPTIAN FRONT."

3. COLUMNIST ELIAS BADAWI WRITES IN LEADING PRO-EGYPTIAN "AL-ANWAR":
"ISRAEL'S MANEUVER ON EVE OF RABIN'S VISIT TO U.S. IS OBVIOUS. IT
IS TRYING TO ISOLATE EGYPT FROM OTHER CONFRONTATION STATES, INDEED
FROM ALL ARAB STATES. ISRAEL WANTS TO GIVE OUTSIDE WORLD IMPRESSION
THAT IT IS PREPARED TO CONCLUDE PROVISIONAL SETTLEMENT WITH EGYPT
FIRST AND WILL THEN CONSIDER SIMILAR SETTLEMENTS WITH OTHER ARAB
STATES INVOLVED. BUT REPLY TO THIS ISRAELI MANEUVER MUST BE CLEAR
TO AMERICAN LEADERS. CAIRO HAS ASSERTED TIME AND TIME AGAIN ...
THAT ANY PROGRESS ON ROAD TO PEACE MUST BE PART OF GENERAL SETTLE-
MENT.... SALZBURG SUMMIT MUST HAVE CONVINCED PRESIDENT FORD AND
SECSTATE KISSINGER OF THIS."

4. PRO-SOVIET LEBANESE CP ORGAN "AL-AKHBAR" WRITES (JUNE 7):
"EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT SAID THAT BIGGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT OF SUMMIT
MEETING WAS THAT HE GOT TO KNOW PRESIDENT FORD. HE ALSO SAID
PRESIDENT FOR IS HONEST, FRANK MAN ... WORKING FOR PEACE....
MEANWHILE, AMERICAN ARMS FLOW TO ISRAEL IN SUCH QUANTITIES THAT
RABIN SAYS THERE ARE SOMETIMES MORE ARMS THAN MEN WHO CAN USE
THEM.... AFTER ALL THIS, THEY WANT US TO BELIEVE THAT FORD IS
'HONEST AND SINCERE MAN ... WORKING FOR PEACE'. HAVE ARABS SO
LOST THEIR COMMON SENSE AND SENSE OF REALITY THAT THEY ACCEPT
SUCH TALK? OF COURSE NOT."

5. PFLP/CG ORGAN 'ILA AL-AMAM' WRITES (JUNE 6): "PRESIDENT
SADAT WAS RIGHT WHEN HE SAID ON EVE OF SALZBURG SUMMIT THAT ... HE
SPOKE FOR 'MOST' AND NOT 'ALL' ARAB REGIMES. HE ALSO SAID
THAT HE RECOGNIZES ISRAEL AS A FACT ... AND THAT IT IS MADE
TO IGNORE THIS.... ARAB MASSES DEMAND TO KNOW WHOM SADAT REPRESENTS
IN RECOGNIZING ISRAEL.... FOR THEIR PART, ARAB REGIMES ARE CALLED
UPON TO DEFINE THEIR POSITION. DOES EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT REPRESENT
THEM?"

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6. PRO PDFLP WEEKLY "AL-HURRIYYA" WRITES (JUNE 9): "RECENT
EVENTS HAVE REVEALED THAT ... STEP-BY-STEP POLICY WHICH FAILED
IN MARCH ... HAS ASSUMED NEW FORM AS PRELUDE TO RESUMPTION OF
KISSINGER'S MISSION. THIS NEW FORM CONSISTS OF EGYPTIAN STEP
HERE AND ISRAELI STEP THERE TO ESTABLISH 'GOOD INTENTIONS' OF
BOTH SIDES. WHEN THESE 'SMALL STEPS' HAVE BEEN TAKEN, KISSINGER
WILL RESUME HIS MISSION ONCE AGAIN ... TO CARRY OUT ISOLATED
BILATERAL EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI SETTLEMENT.... SADAT IS BETTING ON

THIS AGAIN FOLLOWING HIS MEETING WITH NEW AMERICAN PRESIDENT....
LEBANESE PHALANGE'S ATTEMPT TO ... DISTRACT PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE
FROM ITS POLITICAL AND MILITARY TASKS SO THAT SADAT'S PROPOSAL
AND NEW AMERICAN PLAN MAY PASS WITHOUT ENCOUNTERING ANY PALESTINIAN
OPPOSITION... IS SECRET OF 'GOOD CONDUCT CERTIFICATE' THAT SADAT
GAVE RECENTLY TO PIERRE GEMAYEL."

7. PLO ORGAN 'FILASTIN ATH-THAWRA" WRITES (JUNE 8): "FACT
THAT PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE CONSTITUTES OBSTACLE TO IMPERIALIST
SETTLEMENT EXPLAINS WHY IMPERIALIST CONSPIRACY WAS DIRECTED AGAINST
PRESENCE OF PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION IN LEBANON. AMERICAN IMPERIALISM
CAN FIND NO WAY INTO MIDEAST EXCEPT THROUGH LIQUIDATION OF PALES-
TINIAN REVOLUTION. THIS REVOLUTION IS TODAY MORE DETERMINED THAN
EVER TO RESIST ALL IMPERIALIST SETTLEMENTS."

8. PFLP ORGAN "AL-HADAF" WRITES (JUNE 7): "IT HAS BEEN DECISIVELY
PROVED THAT BLOODY EVENTS THAT HAVE OCCURRED IN LEBANESE AREA
HAVE IN FACT BEEN NOTHING MORE THAN LINK IN CHAIN OF COMPREHENSIVE
PLAN WHICH AMERICAN IMPERIALIST, WHITH HELP OF ITS ISRAELI AND
REACTIONARY ALLIES, IS IMPLEMENTING IN ORDER TO IMPOSE ITS
CONDITIONS FOR CREATION OF SURRENDERIST POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IN
ARAB REGION.... ARAB MASSES, WHICH HAVE STOOD FIRM IN FACE OF
ALL IMPERIALIST-ZIONIST ATTEMPTS TO HUMILIATE THEM ... MUST FOIL
SETTLEMENT CONSPIRACY."

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